

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN JOSE DIVISION**

IN RE: PERSONALWEB
TECHNOLOGIES, LLC ET AL., PATENT
LITIGATION

Case No. [18-md-02834-BLF](#)

AMAZON.COM, INC., and AMAZON
WEB SERVICES, INC.,

**ORDER DENYING MOTION TO
SUBSTITUTE COUNSEL**

Plaintiffs

Case No.: 5:18-cv-00767-BLF

v.

PERSONALWEB TECHNOLOGIES, LLC
and LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC,

Case No.: 5:18-cv-05619-BLF

Defendants,

PERSONALWEB TECHNOLOGIES, LLC,
and LEVEL 3 COMMUNICATIONS, LLC,

Plaintiffs,

v.

TWITCH INTERACTIVE, INC.,

Defendant.

On May 17, 2021, Plaintiff filed a motion to substitute Plaintiff PersonalWeb Technologies LLC, *in pro per*, in place of Stubbs Alderton & Markiles, LLP. ECF 679. While the Court may have suggested at the recent case management conference that this substitution was permissible, a more searching review of civil procedure indicates otherwise. A corporation or other artificial entity must be represented by licensed counsel. *See, e.g., Rowland v. California Men's Colony*, 506 U.S. 194, 201–202 (1993) (“It has been the law for the better part of two centuries, for example, that a corporation may appear in the federal courts only through licensed counsel.”); Civil L.R. 3–9(b) (“A corporation, unincorporated association, partnership or other such entity may appear only through a

member of the bar of this Court.”). Accordingly, the Court DENIES Plaintiff’s Motion to Substitute Counsel at ECF 679.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 19, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Beth Labson Freeman", written over a horizontal line.

BETH LABSON FREEMAN
United States District Judge